

The first considerable amount of irrigation on government projects was reached in 1906, when 22,000 acres of arid land was supplied with water. In 1913, which is the latest date for which statistics are available, the total of 700,000 acres was reached.

The reclamation of arid land under government projects is still in its infancy, and has necessarily been slow because both the government officials and the farmers have been compelled to learn by experience what methods are most successful and satisfactory. Development will be far more rapid in future. Vast areas of land that was previously abandoned to sagebrush, jack rabbits and coyotes, will, for all time to come, make pleasant homes for thrifty American farmers, produce food for residents of American cities and add enormously to the total wealth of the nation.

These irrigation farmers are raising alfalfa, fruit, grain, vegetables,—practically every farm product that can be grown anywhere. The alfalfa supplies feed for livestock. The livestock furnishes raw material for the packing houses. The laborers in the packing houses are buyers of all kinds of food and clothing, and other necessities of life. The \$15,000,000 of products on irrigated land in 1913, was but the beginning of a chain of business that furnished profitable employment for thousands of men and women.

The framers of the reclamation act anticipated that development must be slow, and therefore, they provided for settlement by homeseekers under a plan of payment by installments covering a ten-year period, which period congress has since extended to twenty years. The purpose of the act was to provide more farm homes and extend the area of productive lands. While the act was a departure from accepted ideas as to the proper scope of government, experience has proven the wisdom of government initiative in an undertaking so large that private enterprise could not be expected to invest unless given concessions that might ultimately be found against the interests of homeseekers.

Although President Wilson has declared that the Republican party has not had a new idea in thirty years, the reclamation act stands upon the statute books alongside the pure food law, the postal savings bank law and the parcel post law as a mute but permanent evidence of the constructive policies of that party.

FRIEDMAN TUNNEL FORGES AHEAD

The news from Rochester is to the effect that the compressor has been installed to expedite the work on the Friedman tunnel which will tap the big veins of Nenzel hill at 1,200 feet. The company closed a contract with Cole, Huntington and Binns to drive the tunnel and they will be moving in full blast in four or five days. The bore is now 325 feet, but with the new machinery they should make close to 300 feet a month. It is estimated that 1,400 feet will tap the main leads of the hill as shown in the Big Four, Codd and Four J's leases.

The slight pause caused by condemnation proceedings on the right-of-way of the Nevada Short Line has been nullified. Construction gangs are hard at it and President Codd states that he will have his road built to the foot of the tramway by July 15th. It will be remembered that this point is also the portal of the Friedman tunnel.

Willard has had a week of quiet development with an excellent showing of strong veins as the leasers gain depth. It now appears practically certain that a mill will be constructed in the very near future to handle the ores from this camp.

Chas. S. Sprague, the broker of the field, who recently purchased a large interest in the Honey Bee at Willard, is now inspecting properties at the new camp. It is expected that an important

announcement will come from Mr. Sprague shortly.

A BETTER MINING YEAR IN UTAH

A recent bulletin from the U. S. geological survey says:

For its mid-year summary of mining conditions, the United States geological survey has received favorable reports from Victor C. Heikes of its Salt Lake office. The outlook is bright, although mining in Utah was dull after the European war started, and did not improve until March, when the demand for metals caused mills and smelters to increase capacity. As a result of higher metal prices, the immense stock piles of ore at one or two of the smelters in Utah are being rapidly worked up for the lead and copper content and only producers of carbonate and siliceous ores have preference or find a ready market. In some cases, as in the purchase of zinc ores, buyers have been powerless and refuse to consider ore which has not previously been arranged for by contract.

Lead producers, during a few days of extremely high prices for the metal, found smelters refusing to make contract except as previously prevailing prices with only half of the new quotation added. Producers with contracts for the sale of lead ore increased their shipments slightly and enjoyed the high prices.

The output of metals which suffered a decline in 1914 is expected to reach totals in 1915 which will compare with the record metal output of 1913.

SAN DIEGO BREAKS RECORDS

San Diego, July 7.—June goes down in record as contributing the third largest monthly attendance at the San Diego exposition since its opening January while July, even at this early date gives promise of breaking all records.

During June the attendance reached the total of 166,135, a daily average of 5,537. This figure was reached without any special events or celebrations of importance, plainly indicating that the San Diego exposition is drawing heavy patronage by reason of its beauty and the extent of its exhibits. The only special event which swelled the crowd was the concert which Mme. Schumann-Heink gave when she sang to twenty thousand people.

The attendance at the exposition since its opening is now close to the million mark and when this figure is reached there will be general celebration in which all of San Diego and its contiguous territory will engage. The occasion will be known as "Million Attendance Day."

DEATH OF MR. KEENE

The many friends of H. M. Keene were saddened by the news of his death which occurred on Sunday last at his residence here. The cause was pneumonia, which he contracted a few days previously and his ripe old age of eighty-four made the struggle unequal from the beginning of his affliction.

He led a long and useful life and his passing was mourned by a large circle of friends. He is survived by his daughter, Mrs. J. P. Sprunt, Jr., and his son, Steve Keene, who now resides on the coast, but was formerly in business here.

"Son, if you must enlist," said the wise old man, "enlist in the navy."

"Why, dad?"

"A government sustains no actual loss if a company of soldiers is shot to pieces, but a new battleship is too valuable to take chances with."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

WORTH LOOKING OVER

Sir Edward Carson is usually very serious in demeanor, but he is a master in the art of making witty and telling retorts. During one case in which he appeared he had more than one passage at arms with the judge, who finally drew attention to a discrepancy between the evidence given by two of Sir Edward's principal witnesses, one of whom was a carpenter and the other a tavernkeeper. "That's so, my lord," instantly retorted Sir Edward. "Yet another case of difference between the bench and the bar."—San Francisco Argonaut.

He was deeply in love with his wife, but awfully careless about money matters. He started away on a long business trip leaving her short of money, and promised to send her a check, which he forgot to do. The rent came due and she telegraphed: "Dead broke. Landlord insists. Wire me money." Her husband answered: "Am short myself. Will send check in a few days. A thousand kisses." Exasperated, his wife replied: "Never mind money. I gave landlord one of the kisses. He was more than satisfied."

Mr. O'Sullivan returned from the political meeting, which had waxed long and sultry. "There's eight nations ripresented in this ward of ours," he said to his wife, as he began to count them off on his fingers. "There's Irish, Frinch, Eyetallians, Poles, Germans, Roossians, Greeks, an'—" he continued, then stopping for a moment, he started again: "There's Irish, Frinch, Eyetallians, Poles, Germans, Roossians, Greeks, an'— ain't it queer I disremember the other wan? There's Irish, Frinch—" "Maybe 'twas Americans, wasn't it?" suggested Mrs. O'Sullivan. "Shure, an' that's th' very wan!" cried her husband, exultantly. "Oi c'uldn't think of it."

He was paying a visit to his friend, but that worthy being upstairs for some reason or other, he had no option but to wait downstairs.

Presently a little boy of five entered the room. "Good afternoon, Mr. Black," he exclaimed shyly.

Mr. B. returned the salutation, but neither spoke for quite five minutes. Then the boy suddenly burst out:

"You don't know what we've got upstairs."

"No, I don't, Jackie. Waht is it?"

"It's a dear little new baby sister."

"How nice!" exclaimed Mr. Black. "And is she going to stay with you?" he added, by way of keeping up the conversation.

"I 'spect so," came the thoughtful answer. "She's got her things off, anyway."—New York American.

A man rambled into a village cafe, selected a table, and told the attending waiter to bring him half a duck. Fifteen minutes went by, then another fifteen, and yet another. Finally the man at the table began to show symptoms of impatience. "What can I do for you, sir?" asked the waiter, going over to the table in response to an imperative call. "What about my order?" demanded the diner. "How soon do I get that half a duck?" "Just as soon as somebody comes in and orders the other half," was the calm rejoinder. "You don't think we can go out and kill half a duck, do you?"—San Francisco Argonaut.

Mr. Bryan is one editor who knows how to make news as well as comment on it.—Columbia State.

It isn't the initial cost of a war—it's the upkeep.—New York Tribune.

But how does Mr. Bryan expect to get the German vote in 1916 on a prohibition platform?—Boston Transcript.